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## **Required Admission Forms**

Application for Admission	<b>A-1</b>
Declaration	<b>B-1</b>
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# Veterans Home of California

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**T**he Veterans Home of California is first and foremost a place where veterans come to live. It offers complete medical and dental care amidst the amenities of a small town atmosphere. Residents may participate in on or off-campus activities, civic affairs or attend veterans service organization meetings. On campus, residents have the option of participating in the Therapeutic Employment Program or by helping other veterans through volunteer service. On-campus libraries offer a wide variety of reading material to satisfy the most avid reader.

Activities include, but are not limited to, dances, social events, special programs, arts and crafts and gardening, to name a few. All three campuses have golf courses and swimming pools close by.

Most residents may come and go as they wish or simply enjoy the peace and quiet of their rooms. The goal is to enable all residents to achieve their highest quality of life in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. The resident population at each campus is representative of many diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds. No matter which campus you choose, the California Department of Veterans Affairs wants the Veterans Home of California to be your true home.



## Veterans Home of California–

# *Barstow*

**T**he Veterans Home of California, Barstow (VHC–Barstow), is located in the high desert of Southern California, off Interstate 15, midway between Los Angeles and Las Vegas and only an hour drive from the Ontario Airport.

Opened February 1996, VHC-Barstow has the capability to care for 400 elderly or disabled California veterans in two levels of care: Domiciliary (Independent Living) and Intermediate Care. Residents of VHC-Barstow requiring skilled nursing care would have first priority for admission to these services at either the Chula Vista or Yountville Veterans Homes. Acute hospital care is provided at either the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Loma Linda for those veterans eligible for VA care or at the Barstow Community Hospital. Primary medical care is provided to domiciliary residents at the on-site clinic. For Intermediate care residents, contract physicians who visit the home regularly provide this care.

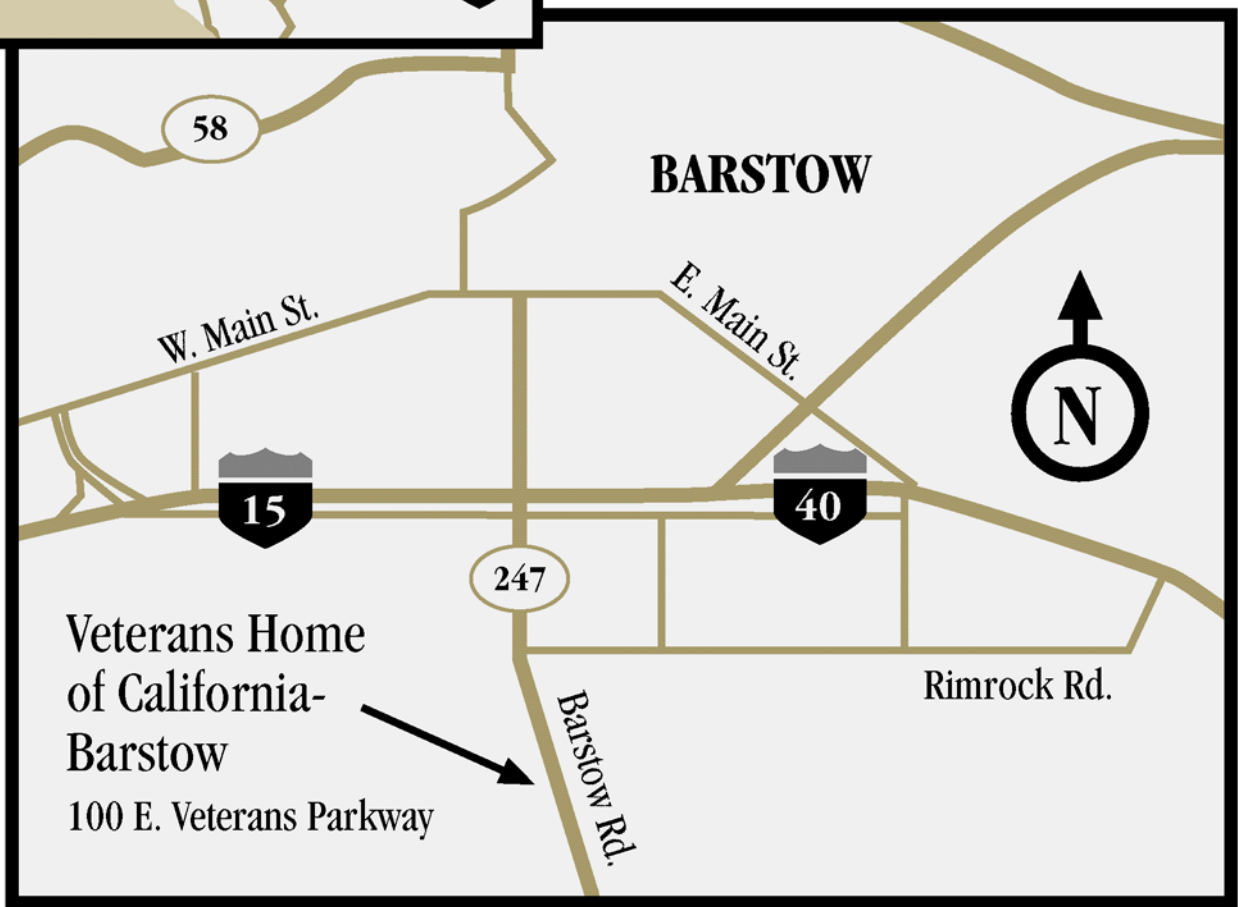
The veterans home provides California veterans with a living environment that protects their dignity and contributes to their feeling of self-reliance and self-worth. Nearby Barstow College offers many cultural and educational opportunities for Home residents to enjoy.

Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be residents of California, age 62 or older (or younger if disabled), and have served honorably.



Veterans seeking admission to the Veterans Home of California, Barstow should call 1-800-746-0606 or write to:

Veterans Home of California, Barstow  
 Attn: Admissions  
 100 E. Veterans Parkway  
 Barstow, CA 92311





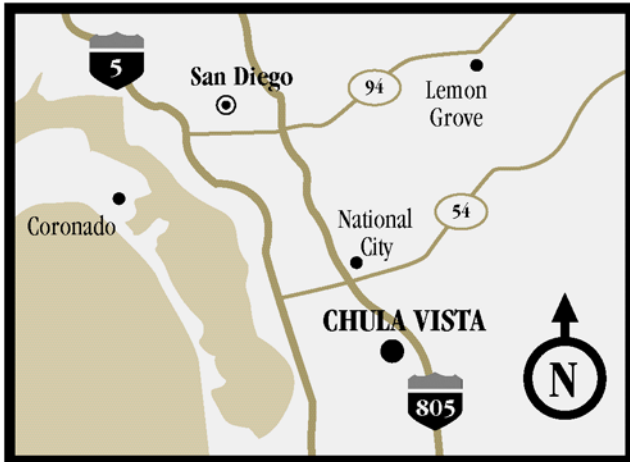
## Veterans Home of California–

# *Chula Vista*

**L**ocated on a 30-acre site off Telegraph Canyon Road, adjacent to Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center, the Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista (VHC-Chula Vista), is the only veterans home located in coastal, urban Southern California. With views of the Pacific Ocean and downtown San Diego, VHC-Chula Vista's location provides residents with numerous cultural and recreational opportunities.

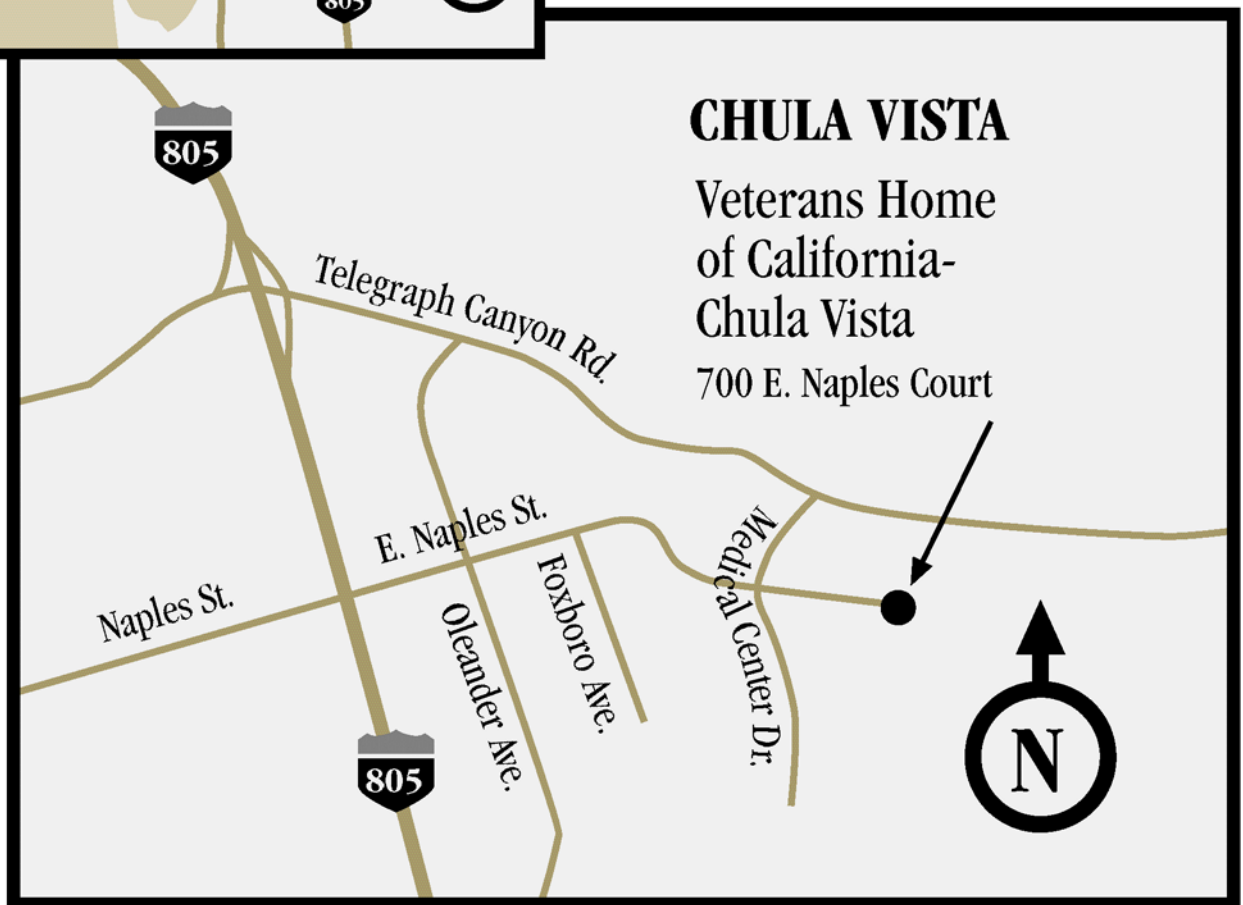
Completed in May 2000, VHC-Chula Vista is a 400-bed long-term care facility providing options for Domiciliary - Independent Living, Licensed Residential, and Skilled Nursing Care. Employed physicians provide medical care in both the licensed outpatient clinic and the inpatient skilled nursing settings. Acute care is provided at either the La Jolla U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, or at the nearby Sharp Hospital in Chula Vista.

Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be residents of California, age 62 or older (or younger if disabled), and have served honorably.



Veterans seeking admission to the Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista should call 1-888-857-2146 or write to:

Veterans Home of California, Chula Vista  
 Attn: Admissions  
 700 East Naples Court  
 Chula Vista, CA 91911





## Veterans Home of California–

# *Yountville*

**L**ocated in the heart of scenic Napa Valley, the Veterans Home of California-Yountville (VHC-Yountville) is a community of and for veterans. Some 1,200 veterans (both men and women) live at the home. Founded in 1884, VHC-Yountville is the largest veterans home in the United States. It provides residential accommodations and a wealth of recreational, social, and therapeutic activities for independent living, including: a 1,200 seat theater, 9-hole golf course, 45,000 volume library, creative arts center, swimming pool and fitness center, resident-operated television station, baseball stadium, RV park, bowling lanes, auto hobby shop, and a base exchange store.

The Veterans Home of California-Yountville also offers Residential Care (assisted living) capacity and three levels of inpatient health care: Intermediate Care, Skilled Nursing Care, and General Acute Care. General acute care is also provided at Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa, St. Helena Hospital in St. Helena, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in San Francisco.

Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be residents of California, age 62 or older (or younger if disabled), and have served honorably.





Veterans seeking admission to the Veterans Home of California, Yountville should call (800) 404-8387 or write to:

Veterans Home of California, Yountville  
 Attn: Communication and Development  
 P.O. Box 1200  
 Yountville, CA 94599



# Levels of Health Care

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**T**he Veterans Homes of California offer residents up to five levels of care: Independent Living – Domiciliary; Licensed Residential; Intermediate Nursing; Skilled Nursing; and Acute Care. Overarching all of these levels of care is full medical and dental care at no cost to the veteran. Definitions for each level of service/care follow.

## **Independent Living—Domiciliary**

This independent living setting is for residents who are self-sufficient and able to perform all activities of daily living. Non-nursing staff provides minimal personnel and supervision. Domiciliary residents have access to the Home's other levels of care and medical services. Domiciliary services are offered at all three Veterans Homes. Standards for domiciliary are set by the USDVA, the state does not regulate this service.

## **Residential Care for the Elderly**

A Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) is available at Chula Vista and Yountville for residents who require minimal assistance and supervision with the activities of daily living. RCFE services do not include care by licensed nurses. Only members in Domiciliary or skilled nursing care to are eligible for admittance to RCFE. This level of care is licensed by the California Department of Social Services.

## **Intermediate Nursing Care**

Residents in this level of care require Intermittent licensed nursing assistance

with medications and treatments, and they generally require unlicensed nursing assistance with some daily living activities. Intermediate care differs from skilled nursing care by the degree of need for the services of licensed nurses.

Intermediate care is licensed by the California Department of Health Services, and also meets United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) standards. Direct admissions to this level of care are on a space available basis, with first priority going to veterans who are already living at the Home. Intermediate nursing services are currently only available at the Barstow and Yountville homes.

## **Skilled Nursing Care**

Skilled nursing care provides the services of licensed nurses on a continuous, 24-hour basis. It is more intense than immediate care, but less intense than acute care. Skilled nursing patients may receive rehabilitation therapies, nursing, pharmaceutical, activity, and dietary services.

Skilled nursing care at the Veterans Homes is certified for participation in the Medicare and

and Medi-Cal reimbursement programs and is licensed by the California Department of Health Services. Skilled nursing must also meet USDVA standards. Direct admissions to this level of care are on a space available basis, with first priority going to veterans who are already living at the Home. Skilled nursing care is currently available only at the Chula Vista and Yountville Homes.

Admissions at this level of care are on a space available basis.

### **Acute/Intensive Care**

On site acute hospital services are available only at the Yountville Home. Services include 24-hour nursing and medical care, limited surgical procedures, laboratory, radiology, pharmacy, and dietary. Residents of the Barstow and Chula Vista Homes receive acute care at no cost from either the nearest USDVA Medical Center or from a local contracted hospital.

## **Levels of Health Care Provided**

Direct admissions are made on a space available basis. Please check with the individual facility for current status of vacancies.

	<b>Barstow</b>	<b>Yountville</b>	<b>Chula Vista</b>
Residential Care— Domiciliary	Yes	Yes	Yes
Residential Care— Licensed	No	Yes	Yes
Intermediate Care	Yes	Yes	No
Skilled Nursing Care	No	Yes	Yes
Acute/Intensive Care	No	Yes	No
Alzheimer's/Dementia Program	No	No	No
Drug/Alcohol and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Program	No	No	No

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **May I visit the Veterans Home of California (VHC) before applying for admission?**

Yes. We strongly urge all potential members to visit our campuses first. Please call in advance so that we may schedule a complete tour of the campus of your choice. Unscheduled tours may not be able to be accommodated.

Barstow: 1-800-746-0606/ 760-252-6350

Chula Vista: 1-619-482-6010/ 1-619-654-7022

Yountville: 1-800-404-8387/ 707-944-5000

## **Do I have to be a Cal-Vet to reside at VHC?**

No. The definition of a California veteran has changed over the years. Although you must currently be a resident of California to be admitted, you no longer have to have joined the military from California, nor do you have to have wartime service.

## **How much will it cost me to become a campus resident?**

No veteran will be denied admission due to a lack of income. For those veterans who have income, state law requires that they pay their fair share of costs. These costs are called member fees. Member fees help reduce the amount of state tax dollars needed to operate VHC, thus allowing the California Department of Veterans Affairs to provide for a greater number of veterans. Member fees are:

- (a) **Residential Care:** 47.5 percent of your income or \$1,200 per month, whichever amount is less.
- (b) **Intermediate Care:** 65 percent of your income or \$2,300 per month, whichever amount is less.
- (c) **Skilled Nursing Home Care:** 70 percent of your income or \$2,500 per month, whichever amount is less.

Note: If you receive aid and attendance (A&A) benefits from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the entire A&A amount will be paid to VHC.

## **Is there a waiting list to become a VHC resident?**

Members are admitted on a space and bed-available basis. Generally speaking, there are usually openings available at the entry or residential/domiciliary levels. However, there are usually long waiting lists for those seeking higher levels of care, such as skilled nursing care, because current home residents have first priority for admission to these services. Thus, the best way to assure future access to skilled nursing care is to enter the Home at one of the lower levels of care. For those considering a state veterans home, it is highly advisable to apply well before the need becomes urgent. To obtain the current status of vacancies, call the appropriate campus.

## **Will I have a private room?**

No. According to federal requirements all rooms are designed for double occupancy. VHC will do its best to place you with another veteran with similar preferences and lifestyle.

## **I am married. Can my spouse become resident?**

Spouses may be admitted with certain restrictions. A spouse must be a California resident and be married to and living with the veteran for at least one year. Spouses must submit a separate, complete application and meet requirements for admission at the residential/domiciliary or skilled nursing level of care.

## **Does the Veterans Home of California (VHC) provide health care?**

Yes. Each campus provides varying levels of health care. VHC also has established transfer and treatment agreements with USDVA and specific private medical facilities.

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**My spouse and I have medical coverage through a health maintenance organization (HMO). Should we keep this coverage?**

Each case is based upon its own merits. The staff at VHC will counsel and assist you in obtaining all medical benefits allowable through private, federal, state and local facilities.

**I have a pet dog and a cat. May I bring them with me?**

No. VHC has no facilities for pets.

**Does VHC have laundry facilities?**

Yes. Washing machines and dryers are available.

**May I have visitors at VHC?**

Yes. Visits by your friends and relatives are encouraged. VHC staff will be glad to assist you in arranging these visits.

**How many personal belongings may I bring with me?**

Each room has limited storage space. Some additional storage space may be available. Check with the specific campus for further details. All personal equipment must meet health, safety and fire codes.

**Is there a probation period or a specific set of rules and procedures I must follow to become and remain a VHC resident?**

Yes. Each new resident is placed on a 60-day conditional admission (probation) period and given a thorough briefing and orientation upon arrival on campus.

**If I am denied admission to VHC, what are my rights?**

All initial appeals of denied admissions must first be filed with the appropriate campus administrator. Appeals must be in writing, stating the reasons you feel you should be admitted to VHC. If the appropriate campus administrator denies your admission and you wish to appeal, you may initiate your second appellate step by contacting the California Veterans Board at P. O. Box 942895, Sacramento, CA 94295-0001. The board will provide you with an appeal form if you did not receive one from the campus.

**May I be admitted if I have medical problems that require special care?**

Maybe. Medical staff will individually review each application. All admission decisions will be made based upon available medical resources and VHC ability to provide necessary care for you.

**Do I have to be at least 62 years old to apply for admission?**

Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be (1) residents of California, (2) age 62 or older (or younger if disabled), and (3) have served honorably. The average age of veterans living at our campuses, at all levels of care, is 73. If you wish to be considered for admission and meet the requirements, please submit your application.

# How to Apply

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## Basic Admission Requirements

Please note, numerous federal and state laws, regulations and licensing requirements govern basic admission requirements. California state laws concerning VHC are contained in the Military and Veterans Code, Sections 1010 through 1050. State regulations concerning VHC are contained in the California Code of Regulations, Title 12, Chapter 4, Sections 500 through 505.

**To be admitted to the Veterans Home of California (VHC), you must be aged or disabled and meet the following basic requirements:**

- (1) You must have served on active duty in the armed forces of the United States, for other than training purposes, during wartime or peacetime. Proof of military service must be verified by, or through, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) or the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA). Medal of Honor recipients and wartime veterans are given priority for admission over peace time veterans.
- (2) Your discharge or release from active duty must have been honorable or under honorable conditions.
- (3) You must be eligible for hospitalization or domiciliary care according to the laws and regulations of USDVA.
- (4) You must be a resident of California at the time you apply for admission.

In addition:

- (5) You must not have active communicable tuberculosis.
- (6) You must not require more care and supervision than we are able to provide at VHC.

- (7) You must not require acute hospitalization at the time of application.
- (8) You must not have a primary need for acute psychiatric care.
- (9) You must not have a past history of violence, mental illness or a criminal record that would create a risk to yourself or other residents of VHC.
- (10) You must be drug-free and sober.

## The Application Process

After receiving an application we take the following actions:

- (1) Determine that the application package is complete. You will be contacted if it is incomplete.
- (2) Review medical evidence to determine the actual level of care to which a veteran should be admitted and to determine if VHC is able to provide needed care.
- (3) Verify required military service and conduct a criminal records check as required.

## Applying for Admission

Before applying for admission please carefully review **all** information included in this package. If you feel that you meet all of the requirements you **must**:

- (1) Complete and sign the attached application (Form A-1) and declaration (Form B-1). Answer all questions on the forms. Failure to provide required information may result in delay or denial of admission to VHC. Use the comments section if necessary;
- (2) Complete and sign the enclosed Authorization for Use of Disclosure of Medical Information (Form C-1)

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(3) Have a physician complete the Physician's Medical Certificate (Form D-1); Note: You may be required to have a pre-screening interview with a member of the medical staff of the individual campus.

(4) Have someone who knows you personally, such as a family member, friend, veterans service officer or social worker, complete the Social Functioning Assessment (Form E-1).

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If you need assistance in completing this application, obtaining additional applications or applying for admission at VHC, please contact the campus directly or your local county veterans service office (listed in your telephone book under "County Government Offices").

## Checklist

**Before mailing, please ensure your application includes all of the following:**

- ☐ Form A (pages A-1 through A-4), the Application for Admission
- ☐ Form B (pages B-1 and B-2), Declaration
- ☐ Form C (page C-1), Authorization for Use or Disclosure of Medical Information
- ☐ Form D (pages D-1 through D-5), Physician's Medical Certificate
- ☐ Form E (pages E-1 through E-2), Social Functioning Assessment
- ☐ Form F (pages F-1 through F-2), Alcohol Survey
- ☐ Form G (pages G-1 through G-2), Drug Abuse Screening Test
- ☐ Form H (pages H-1 through H-3), Notification of Costs of Care in Excess of the Member Fees

Date you mailed the application package: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Date Year

Veterans Home of California, Admissions Office:

- ☐ Barstow, 100 E. Veterans Parkway, Barstow, CA 92311
- ☐ Chula Vista, 700 E. Naples Court, Chula Vista, CA 91911
- ☐ Yountville, 180 California Drive, Yountville, CA 94599